

Message

From: Lemay, Sebastien J (Police) [LemayS@ottawapolice.ca]
Sent: 1/28/2022 7:09:27 PM
To: Jasna Jennings [director@byward-market.com]; andrewpeck@downtownrideau.com; Brian O'Hoski [brian.ohoski@cadillacfairview.com]; Fleury, Mathieu (Personal) [MFleury@ottawa.ca]; Fleury, Mathieu [Mathieu.Fleury@ottawa.ca]
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Subject: Additional information regarding this weekend's events

Unclassified

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Dear Community Partners:

The Ottawa Police Service (OPS) is aware of concerns of Downtown Rideau BIA members regarding traffic and other forms of disruption this weekend resulting from the planned Freedom Rally.

In anticipation of this weekend's events, the OPS has worked diligently with its City, Provincial, Federal, and community partners in developing operational plans; the Downtown Core and Rideau areas have been, and continue to be, areas of focus in such plans. In addition, the OPS has proactively deployed a Police Liaison Team and Community Police Officers (CPOs) to meet with community and business leaders to adequately understand and respond to concerns.

Our Approach:

OPS has worked to ensure we have the resources to maintain a safe and secure environment. This will involve:

- a large police presence (including Patrol and Neighbourhood officers) and emergency service presence, visible in the downtown core and on major highways and roads;
- extra vigilance and attention being paid to the identification and response to unlawful and disruptive acts;
- regular communication with private security services in the area who traditionally support our Downtown and Rideau area business.

As noted in earlier messages, it is known that there will be extreme traffic delays and congestion across a large portion of the downtown core. Should members of your organization need to travel, we suggest allowing for significant delays.

The OPS will always be available to respond to any issues of life safety you may encounter by dialing 911; however, it must be noted that calls will be responded to on a prioritized basis as public safety remains our paramount concern.

For issues relating to the COVID-19 restrictions and masking, please call 311. It is important that calls be directed to the right agency to ensure proper response and to avoid unnecessary drain on emergency services.

I encourage you to reach out to me directly if you have specific questions or concerns, or you can email CSS@ottawapolice.ca and someone will get in touch with you.

For general up-to-date information, follow us on Twitter at [@OttawaPolice](https://twitter.com/OttawaPolice) for more details. For up-to-date traffic information, follow the City of Ottawa on Twitter [@OttawaTraffic](https://twitter.com/OttawaTraffic) for real-time updates or utilize a traffic monitoring app like Google or Waze to check for traffic congestion before travel.

Kind regards,

Seb

Cst. Sébastien Lemay, #2129

Community Police Officer for Lowertown and Sandy Hill

Policier communautaire pour la Basse-Ville et la Côte-de-sable

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Follow me on Twitter: @CstSebLemay
